

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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SEX OFFENDER CHARGED WITH CHILD PORN

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man with a prior sex offense convictions was charged in federal court today with attempting to receive child pornography over the Internet.

Jerry W. West, 52, of Kansas City, was charged with attempting to receive child pornography in a federal criminal complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Kansas City. **West** remains in federal custody pending a detention hearing at 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 15, 2005.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the complaint, during a search of **West's** apartment law enforcement officers found a child-like plastic doll wearing only panties as well as multiple photos of young girls in public settings (such as children playing in their swimsuits in the Crown Center fountain) that were taken by **West**. Images of child pornography – including a home-made calendar with child pornography featured in each month – was found on **West's** computer, the affidavit says.

West is a registered sex offender with at least one previous conviction for the molestation of a 7-year-old girl, according to the affidavit.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the complaint is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Cynthia Phillips. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow